procuring durable, sophisticated and scientifically manufactured aids and appliances that promote their physically, social and psychological rehabilitation. The scheme is implemented through centres run by the Comapnies, registered under Companies Act, registered Societies, trusts or any other institutions recognised by the Ministry of Welfare. Both Governmental and non-Governmental agencies are thus engaged for the implementation of the scheme.

Under the scheme, aids and appliances upto value of Rs. 3600/- are distributed to the disabled persons free of cost if their monthly income is upto Rs. 1200/- and at 50% of the cost if the income is between Rs. 1201/- to Rs. 2500/-.

(8) Government of India have recently enacted 'The Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights & Full Participation) Act, 1995'. The Act provides prevention and early detection of disabilities, education, employment non-discrimination etc. for disabled persons including mentally handicapped persons.

(9) A National Handicapped Finance & Development Corporation has been registered on 24.1.97 under Section 25 of the Companies Act, 1956 to provide opportunities for skill development and loan assistance on easy terms to the disabled persons to set up self-employment ventrues.

मध्य प्रदेश में विकलांग व्यक्तियों को सुविधाएं

3178. **श्री दिलीप सिंह जूदेव:** क्या कल्याण मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) मध्य प्रदेश में विकलांग व्यक्तियों को राज्य परिवहन की बसों में यात्रा करने हेतु कौन-कौन सी सुविधाएं और रियायतें दी गई हैं और ये सुविधाएं कब से प्रदान की गई है;

(ख) मुफ्त और रियायती दरों पर यात्रा करने की सुविधा कब से स्थापित की गयी है;

(ग) मुफ्त में या रियायती दर पर यात्रा करने के लिए पूर्व में जारी किए गए रियायत संबंधी आदेशों के नवीनीकरण की सुविधा राज्य के किन-किन क्षेत्रों में अभी लागू है और किन-किन क्षेत्रों में यह सुविधा स्थगित कर दी गयी है; और

(घ) इस सुविधा को स्थगित करने तथा नवीनीकरण की सुविधा को मनमाने तरीके से बंद किए जाने के क्या कारण है?

कल्याण मंत्री (श्री बलवन्त सिंह रामूवालिया): (क) से (घ) मध्य प्रदेश सरकार से सूचना मांगी गई है।

Annual Reports on Linguistic Minorities

3179. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Annual Reports on linguistic minorities are being prepared and presented; and

(b) if so, the details thereof together with the details of the Annual Reports for the years 1995-96 and 1996-97?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA):(a) and (b) Yes Sir, So far, 33 Reports on Linguistic Minorities have been prepared, out of which 32 Reports have been submitted to the President of India. All the 32 Reports have also been laid on the Table of both the Houses of Parliament. The 32nd Report submitted to the Government in April, 1995, covered the period from July, 1991 to June, 1992 and 33rd Report on Linguistic Minorities covering the period July, 1992 to June, 1993 has been submitted to the Government recently.

The post of the Commissioner of Linguistic Minorities was vacant in 1995-96 and Dr. Harbhajan Singh Deol took charge of this office on 16th October, 1996.

The Annual Reports for the years 1995-96 and 1996-97 are yet to be submitted by the Commissioner for Linguistic Minorities to the Government.

Reservation for SCs and STs in the admission to school, colleges and engineering colleges

3180. SHRI TARA CHARAN MAJUMDAR: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether some reservation has been provided for admission in schools level, college level and post graduate level including

Engineering and Non-Engineering courses for students belonging to Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and other Backward Classes;

(b) if so, the details thereof separately for each category course-wise as on 31st March, 1997;

(c) whether Government have any, data to indicate total number of students available in each category as on 31st March, 1997; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA): (a) to (d) In admission to Novadaya Vidyalayas, reservation for SCs and STs is provided in proportion to their population in the concerned districts subject to the minimum of national average of 15% and 7.5% respectively.

In Kendriya Vidyalayas, 15% and 7.5% of fresh admissions are reserved for children belonging to SCs and STs respectively.

Engineering and Technical Education Institutions funded by the Government of India reserved 15% of seats for SCs and 7.5% for STs. The State Government institutions approved by the AICTE are required to follow the reservation rules according to the State Policy for SCs and STs.

Reservation of seats is available for admission to the ITIs and Apprentiship Training to the students belonging to SCs and STs categories in proportion to their population in respective States/UTs. No reservation has been extended to OBCs as such.

The details as to the number of students belonging to SCs and STs, course-wise and the total number of students in each category is available only upto 30.9.95 which are at Annexure. [*See Appendix 180 Annexure* No. 66]

Preventive measures against deaths of children in tribal areas of Orissa

3181. SHRI SANATAN BISI: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the preventive measures being taken against deaths of children in remote and backward tribal areas of Orissa;

(b) the details of the amount released to the District Collectors of Orissa during the last three years for the purpose;

(c) whether any monitoring was conducted; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA): (a) to (d) Information has been asked for from the State Government of Orissa and the same will be laid on the Table of the House on its report.

Establishment of junior college for deaf at Bapatta, Guntur, Andhra Pradesh

3182. SHRI K.M. SAIFUI LAH:

DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD:

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a request has been received for establishment of a junior college for deaf at Bapatta, Guntur district in Andhra Pradesh for which Central assistance is necessary and for the same land is available in the primises of the existing high school;

(b) if so, the details thereof and

(c) the action taken to widen job opportunities scope for the deaf in various positions?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA): (a) and (b) A proposal has been received from the Government of Andhra Pradesh that grant-in-aid may be given to the Government Residential School for Deaf at Bapatta with a view to upgrade the school to intermediate college level so as to prepare the Handicapped for availing job opportunities. It has also been stated that the State Government has no objection to hand over the School to Central Government for continuation and upgradation of the same.

As under various schemes of grants-in-aid for handicapped welfare administered currently by the Ministry of Welfare, there is no provision for giving grant-in-and to or taking over of any Government institution, it was not possible to consider the request of the State Government during the last financial year.

(c) In addition to making a provision for reservation of the handicapped persons including hearing handicapped in Govt. posts